

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: 9/29/59

FROM : Mr. Tamm

SUBJECT: ROBERT AMORY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOR INTELLIGENCE, CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D. C.
LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE SOVIET UNION
SEPTEMBER 28, 1959
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS
OF POLICE (IACP)
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK - 1959

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Mr. Amory talked about the transformation in the methods and system of law enforcement in the Soviet Union since the days of Stalin. He traced the abolition of the complete power formerly exercised by the police during the days of Stalin to the present time. He explained the system presently used by the USSR police in the enforcement of its various laws. Its crime detection methods were compared with the best of the Western world.

Mr. Amory set out in his speech details concerning the evolution in handling criminals from the time of Stalin to the present time.

Mr. Amory made no mention of the FBI during his talk and attached is a transcription made of his speech by the New York City Police Department.

ACTION: None. Informative.

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Attachment (1)

ENCLOSURE

MMO'R:MEW

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CRIME REC.

REMARKS OF ROBERT AMORY, JR., CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., AT THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHIEFS OF POLICE, HOTEL STATLER, 32nd Street & 7th Avenue,
NEW YORK CITY - SEPTEMBER 28, 1959

Adm
Rigged
False
Good in
part
The days of the blood baths, purges, etc., are gone,
we hope for ever. Considerable progress has been made in reducing
the tremendous powers of the police enjoyed in the days of Stalin.
The special power of the internal forces, the infamous bureau of
secret police, capable of punishing people without any witness in
attendance or any defense counsel and from which no appeal could be
had. This has been abolished the the Presidium immediately after
Stalin's death, after the arrest of Beria, they instituted a series
of public pre-trials, reviewed the cases and sentences. Most
people where ever they were, if still alive, returned to society.
Many who unfortunately had died in prison could only be posthumously
reinstated. There should be no misunderstanding of the importance
of this in the Soviet Union. We further feel that they cannot
turn this ratchet back again. To re-institute it again would be to
create an un-escapable reaction. We also note that there have
been many modifications in the Codes. Some of the most brutal
penalties previously punishing relatives of offenders have been
abolished and the chances of personal appearances and defense counsel
have been largely increased. The important thing of fource is the sta-
tistics thereon. I will talk about this briefly - We have good

Question

reason to believe that 5/6 of the people incarcerated in the Soviet have been set free. Still leaves a great deal of people in the Soviet Union. 800,00 which contrasts to 200,000 in the United States. Four times as much as we have. They estimate 18,000 are political prisoners and most of them have been found guilty before post war days, for collaborating with the German invaders. We do not accept their figures at face value but come closer to the truth of the slave labor camps. The fact is a very simple one that this was uneconomic. They have a highly economic society and jail in terms of efficiency does not add to a growing economy. Civilians work with much better incentive than in slave labor camps. The other important thing to know is that the present camps are no longer under the Security Police. They now come under a ministry in Moscow.

This must be correct

Under their prison system prisoners have the opportunity of obtaining a highschool education, they have recreational facilities, such as in the more advanced Western prisons. They in the Soviet - prisoners - also receive wages for their work to send home to their families. Finally what is most interesting they are permitted visits from their immediate families wives allowed to visit them. With all these improvements, the Soviet Union remains a dictatorship. The primary function of the local system is the

protection of the political system of the USSR, it is not to safeguard the fundamental liberties of the individuals. It is designed to increase the power of the State. There are many, many things that for example are unlawful, murder, rape, assault, etc., but for example it is a crime to speculate. So one who buys goods at one price and sells at a profit is guilty of a crime and the peddler and merchant in our country would find himself a criminal under their system. A young lady was arrested a couple of weeks ago for spreading hostile rumors. The truth insofar as we are concerned. The job of safety is quite a broad one, everyone is obligated insofar as security is concerned. It has tended to make the people fear everyone and they have no respect for the police. The result is as far as we can make it the police have very little esprit de corps in the bulk of the ^{police} forces. This is a normal negative fact of law enforcement when at best the attitude of the population is noticed.

Now, the crime rate of the Soviet Union is something I cannot mention, usually there are inadequate figures but that record still is a State Security secret. We have only to figure out on the vast evidence we have. That evidence is that the crime

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rate is excessive, in excess of what we are accustomed to in our free world. They claim in theory that crime is against the communistic state. Still have not achieved it. Under their theory it should be steadily declining, we know for a fact that it is not. The result we believe is largely attributable to the capitalistic spirit, the desire for one to better himself, a better life, etc. Particularly differences in the lower and executive class, the executive class in Russia far exceeds that which exists in the United States. In the Soviet there is an overall shortage of goods, little wonder that crimes on the black market are extremely familiar. What little we do know about their crime rate is the general order in which the crimes appear, larcenies, armed robbery, rape is the highest, 50 percent of all convicts have been convicted thereon. Speculation, bribery, murder and finally moon-shining. The people are addicted to drinking and a great amount of illegally produced hooch. But probably most interesting and most related to some of the problems is the major misdemeanors which they have to tend with "hooliganism". They use it as a general term, to include all forms of disturbing the peace including being drunk and disorderly. Drunkenness is a major reason for crime, 70% of the crimes

being traced to it and 40% to accidents of drives and pedestrians. Generally, only 5% committed by children under 18 years of age. Have no statistics on this though. Small reason to wonder because the family influence, the absence of the parents, which we do not have here in the cities due to the proximity of the place of employment, is not present in the Soviet due to the great distances the workers must travel. The net result being that the children are put in public nurseries. They are pretty largely collectivized units. Do not have the good effect of instilling good influence such as come from the homes, good homes. Out of these come 15 year olds, many who are thrown on the streets and run in gangs, believe some of this is familiar to you here. They engage in robbery and other crimes. And, in certain cases murder and our problems in this fair city are not unknown to those in Moscow and Leningrad. By and large the same customs of teen agers seem to prevail there as hear. Rebelling against authority. They dress differently, call their nick name styleangle (style - angle) dress in outlandish clothes, pegged pants and so on. Have their bands and rock and roll delight in supporting modern times makes their law enforcement officials see red. Shows them as being against the system. They do not like to work and like to prey on the honest citizenry. Their age of responsibility either for murder and rape is 16 years. The

juveniles under that are lectured to by the police or turned over to the collective organization which I mentioned.

The police there have their divisions into headquarters and precinct stations and various functional divisions, traffic safety, motor cycle squads and so on. Interesting thing to know to Americans, and our British friends, the police serve a dual master - directly under the local authorities and under the Ministry at Moscow. The size of their establishment does not vary to much as to what we have here. The police in ratio to the population in Leningrad whose population is under 3 million have 3.2 per inhabitant, 2.61 for Chicago, 3.90 for Boston, 1.98 Cleveland. Like the British police described here this morning, they (soviet police) do not carry side arms, they utilize nightsticks. However, they have central racks with arms in the event of riots, etc. The result of this is that they seem reluctant to deal with large soviet gants. Much more boisterous in Leningrad and Moscow than in our cities.

They have an interesting system of handling drunks. Have a special thing in a part of the local police station - sober-up-station. They throw the drunk in there, treatment is and consists of an extensive slug of cold showers, coffee and then they are thrown on the street - sober.

Their crime detection methods compare with the best of the Western world. But what they do and which we cannot attempt is the block and house system of enforcement. Every janitor is responsible for reporting to the block official the activities of each occupant. One level above the house warden is the block warden who is similarly charged.

The Security Police - KGB - or the Committee on State Security. This is essentially important association. It operates against us and our allies, also, operates against the Soviet people in their own home. Nothing-but the highest regard for its professional capacity. The training is extensive, takes years before a person learns their methods and ability to learn things, etc. It has very high morale and a great deal of esprit de corps. The security police are not concerned with ordinary crimes, but only crimes against the state. If you steal something from the State owned factory, it is against the state and also larceny. The security police get into the picture only in the former. They are also concerned with subversive activities, where 20 years ago came a knock on your door and you disappeared. Today they don't, there
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is/greater acceptance of calling the person in and convincing him of
his error and the error of his ways, having him accuse himself,
acknowledging his wrong, having him condemn himself. If he goes

thru that act with apparent sincerity and if it is his first offense, first offender, he will be accepted back on the job. The affect of the new crime methods on crime rates difficult to detect. From the writings and speeches of their police officials detect that at least the Soviet authorities are hoping that this method, consistent with their theories of communism eventually will make unnecessary the role of the police.

When we come to trial, the major difference here is inescapable. The defendant is not permitted to consult with the defense attorney until the pretrial investigation is completed. Equivalent to the handling of an indictment. However, the defense attorney is entitled to see all of the evidence which is different than our own procedures. However, the purpose of this is to make pleas of extenuating circumstances before the court, normally on the question of sentencing. Counselling the defendant on how he went wrong, how he erred and how he should or could rehabilitate himself.

3 There have been many reforms, a new criminal code came out last December, a vast advance. But, while these are steps in the right direction, there still remains much to lift the weight of terror from the Russian people. Did not go as far as the Soviet citizens and we had hoped. I am talking about the lawyers and

other constitutional or court experts in their country. Would like to see written into this code the basic conception of innocence as is our basic attitude in law enforcement. All we can do is hope. However, liberalization will not come as it has in the history of the Anglo American law from the bottom up, it will come through the leaders of the communistic party which remains the master and not the servant of the local order. What they enjoy, the Russian people, will be enjoyed because their masters so decree.